

APPENDIX B

VILLAGE OF BREWSTER COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

WHEREAS, “Complete Streets” are comprehensive, integrated roads that provide for safe and convenient travel along and across the street network by all users: walkers, bicyclists, drivers of various types of vehicles and riders of public transportation, of all ages and abilities, including children and youth, older adults, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Brewster has streets, especially a Main Street corridor, that are amenable to implementation of Complete Street design elements to allow for their use for transportation by multiple modes; and

WHEREAS, the Village is currently undergoing revitalization efforts and believes that a Complete Streets approach will help achieve economically beneficial, healthy and sustainable transportation options in the Village; and

WHEREAS, streets are crucial public spaces and represent major Village infrastructure and a large part of its total land area, and these street environments influence business opportunities, public welfare, shape resident, visitor and shopper experiences and are a platform for community development; and

WHEREAS, the equitable supply of safe alternative means of travel through implementation of complete street policies will positively affect the daily lives of Village residents who do not drive, or choose not to drive, including older adults, low-income people, people of color, people with disabilities, and children; and

WHEREAS, local focus by the Village of Brewster on Complete Streets is consistent with the State and Federal policies to integrate pedestrian and bike facilities more fully in overall transport planning, implementation and operations, including the New York State Complete Streets Act; and

WHEREAS, increasing the extent that people are out walking will aid business district and “Main Street” vitality and reduce traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, many walking and biking injuries and fatalities are preventable and the rates of severe injuries and deaths would likely decrease using a Complete Streets approach; and

WHEREAS, the preemptive planning and design of pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure offers economical personal transportation and long-term cost savings for the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village wishes to encourage walking, biking and public transit as essential forms of transportation that promote public health and independence for all and contribute to overall community economic development and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Village acknowledges the value to community well-being of Complete Streets as a way to address the challenges of air and water contamination, stormwater quantity and quality control, climate change impacts, traffic congestion, civic and economic renewal, and sprawl; and

WHEREAS, walking and biking on Village streets should be a pleasant and safe activity and pedestrian traffic is essential to civic life, commerce, and the resident and tourist experience alike; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 263-38 of the Village of Brewster Code, the Village of Brewster Planning Board has authority to approve, approve with modifications, or disapprove of changes in the line of existing streets and the laying out of streets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Brewster encourages walking, bicycling, and public transit for its economic, transportation, health, fitness, and recreation benefits, it recognizes the importance of creating Complete Streets that enable safe travel by all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and drivers, and people of all ages and abilities, and it supports education about the need for accessibility through events, programs, outreach, and incentives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is a Village goal to foster transportation choices by developing a Complete Streets program, implemented by a Complete Streets Advisory Council and ongoing initiatives by the Village Board of Trustees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the intent of the Village of Brewster's Complete Streets Policy to recognize pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and people with disabilities on the same level as motorists in the planning and design of street reconstruction and upgrades, especially along the Main Street and North Main street corridor, and as part of new street development within the City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village considers each proposed transportation plan and project as an opportunity to explore the potential to improve safety, access and mobility for all travelers and to position bicycling, walking and transit as integral elements of the local transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Brewster Planning Board is hereby appointed to also serve as a Complete Streets Advisory Council (hereafter Council) as a resource on active transportation and vital streets. In this role, its purpose will be to explore the potential to advance the Village's adoption of Complete Streets practices by forming complementary recommendations. There will be coordination of the activities of this group with Village staff, and local non-profits and civic organizations such as walking, biking, recreation clubs, local schools, health organizations, business groups, arts organizations, and other interested parties. Examples of actions this group may initiate, include:

- Explore goals, rationales, and indicators for Complete Streets and active transport;
- Inventory and evaluate how well the streets and transportation network of the Village of

Brewster are serving each category of users;

- Create training opportunities, including for transportation officials;
- Identify desired projects and redesigns and options for achieving a quality community and street environment, including improved accessibility;
- Provide recommendations on policies and priorities; and
- Assess opportunities to integrate, accommodate, and balance the needs of all users in street projects and address potential obstacles to implementing Complete Streets practices in the Village of Brewster; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Board, as the Complete Streets Advisory Council, will also serve as a resource and a collaborative partner for Village elected officials, municipal staff and the Village's Boards, Committees and Commissions on matters germane to non-motorized transportation and Complete Streets, and report on matters referred to it by such officials, staff, Boards, Committees and Commissions within its purview to such referring agency and the City Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following the date of passage of this resolution, via hearing or other stakeholder engagement meetings, the Village Board of the Village of Brewster shall determine further implementation steps to effectuate the goals and purposes of the Village of Brewster Complete Streets policy.